











Types of Graphs - Histogram

The *histogram*, also called a *frequency distributions graph*, is a special type of bar graph. It shows a range of continuous data on the horizontal axis grouped into what are called classes. There is no space between the bars of a histogram because the data is continuous, and the width of each bar that represents the classes is the same. Individual data points are grouped together in classes to show the frequency of data within each class. Histograms can be used to show how a measured class is distributed along a measured variable. These graphs are typically used, for example, to check if a variable follows a normal distribution.

Used for Continuous Data







A *pie chart* or *circle graphs* shows categories or groups of data in relation (i.e. relative proportion) to the whole data set. The entire pie represents all the data, while each slice or segment represents a different category or group within the whole. Each slice should show significant variations. The number of categories should be generally limited to between 3 and 10.





Summary - Types of Graphs

- <u>Bar Graph</u> Used to compare groups/categories of things to each other (e.g. Precipitation each month in Revelstoke) Discrete Data
- <u>Double Bar Graph</u> Used to compare two groups/categories to one another (e.g. Precipitation each month in Revelstoke and Vancouver) Discrete Data
- <u>Broken-Line Graph</u> Used to compare how a quantity changes over some fixed quantity (i.e. time, units, distance, etc...) (e.g. temperature in Revelstoke every hour) <u>Discrete or Continuous Data</u>
- <u>Double broken-Line Graph</u> Used to compare two different quantities to one another over some fixed quantity (e.g. Annual CO₂ emissions between Canada and the United States) <u>Discrete or Continuous Data</u>
- <u>Histogram</u> Used to compare the distribution of data within a certain class. Continuous
- <u>Circle Graph</u> Used to compare the relation of items to the whole or total. Discrete
- <u>Scatterplot</u> used to compare the relationship between two variables. Continuous



